

VI. CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing a hosted service to a customer using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), comprising the steps of:

hosting a communication service on a hosting server;

providing access to the hosting server via an ATM connection; and

allowing the customer to access the communication service at the hosting server via the ATM connection.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the communication service includes private branch exchange (PBX) software.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the PBX software allows the customer to modify the communication service electronically.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the ATM connection connects to a frame relay, a world wide web, a public switch telephone network, or a global ATM system.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the communication service processes voice information, data information, or single network message protocol information.

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6. The method of claim 5, wherein the voice information includes information regarding local telephone service, long distance telephone service, and public branch exchange features.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein the data information includes information regarding a local data network, a wide area network, a virtual private network, unified messaging, or the Internet.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein an operating system of the hosting server includes Microsoft NT, UNIX, or LINUX.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the hosting step further includes an application service.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the hosted application service includes enterprise software or application software.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein

the customer includes a first user located at a first geographical location with a first user ATM hub and a second user located at a second geographical location with a second user ATM hub,

the ATM connection includes a first ATM switch system associated with the first user via the first user ATM hub and a second ATM switch system associated with the second user via the second user ATM hub, and

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the first user connects to the second user via an ATM network that connects the first ATM switch system to the second ATM switch system.

12. A system for providing a hosted service to a customer using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), comprising:

a hosting server for hosting a communication service;

an ATM connection for providing access to the hosting server; and

an access component for allowing the customer to access the communication service at the hosting server via the ATM connection.

13. The system of claim 12, wherein the communication service includes private branch exchange (PBX) software.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the PBX software allows the customer to modify the communication service electronically.

15. The system of claim 12, wherein the ATM connection connects to a frame relay, a world wide web, a public switch telephone network, or a global ATM system.

16. The system of claim 12, wherein the communication service processes voice information, data information, or single network message protocol information.

17. The system of claim 16, wherein the voice information includes information regarding local telephone service, long distance telephone service, and public branch exchange features.

18. The system of claim 16, wherein the data information includes information regarding a local data network, a wide area network, a virtual private network, unified messaging, or the Internet.

19. The system of claim 12, wherein an operating system of the hosting server includes Microsoft NT, UNIX, or LINUX.

20. The system of claim 12, wherein the hosting server further hosts an application service.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein the hosted application service includes enterprise software or application software.

22. The system of claim 12, wherein

the customer includes a first user located at a first geographical location with a first user ATM hub and a second user located at a second geographical location with a second user ATM hub,

the ATM connection includes a first ATM switch system associated with the first user via the first user ATM hub and a second ATM switch system associated with the second user via the second user ATM hub, and

the first user connects to the second user via an ATM network that connects the first ATM switch system to the second ATM switch system.

23. A computer program product for providing a hosted service to a customer using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), the computer program product comprising the following computer-readable program code for effecting actions in a computing platform:

program code for hosting a communication service on a hosting server;

program code for providing access to the hosting server via an ATM connection; and

program code for allowing the customer to access the communication service at the hosting server via the ATM connection.

24. A system for providing a hosted service to a customer using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), comprising:

means for hosting a communication service on a hosting server;

means for providing access to the hosting server via an ATM connection;
and

means for allowing the customer to access the communication service at the hosting server via the ATM connection.

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25. A method for providing a hosted service to a customer using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), comprising the steps of:

hosting a communication service on a hosting server with an ATM hub;

providing access to the hosting server via the ATM hub and an ATM switch system; and

allowing the customer to access the communication service at the hosting server via the ATM switch system.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein the customer obtains access to the ATM switch system via a customer ATM hub.

27. The method of claim 25, wherein the communication service includes private branch exchange (PBX) software.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein the PBX software allows the customer to modify the communication service electronically.

29. The method of claim 25, wherein

the customer includes a first user located at a first geographical location with a first user ATM hub and a second user located at a second geographical location with a second user ATM hub,

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the ATM switch system includes a first ATM switch system associated with the first user via the first user ATM hub and a second ATM switch system associated with the second user via the second user ATM hub, and

the first user connects to the second user via an ATM network that connects the first ATM switch system to the second ATM switch system.

30. The method of claim 25, wherein the ATM switch system connects to a frame relay, a world wide web, a public switch telephone network, or a global ATM system.

31. The method of claim 25, wherein the communication service includes voice information, data information, or single network message protocol information.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein the voice information includes information regarding local telephone service, long distance telephone service, and public branch exchange features.

33. The method of claim 31, wherein the data information includes information regarding a local data network, a wide area network, a virtual private network, unified messaging, or the Internet.

34. The method of claim 25, wherein an operating system of the hosting server includes Microsoft NT, UNIX, or LINUX.

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35. The method of claim 25, wherein the hosting step further includes an application service.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein the application service includes enterprise software or application software.

37. A system for providing a hosted service to a customer using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), comprising:

a hosting server for hosting a communication service with an ATM hub;

an ATM switch system for providing access to the hosting server via the ATM hub; and

an access component for allowing the customer to access the communication service at the hosting server via the ATM switch system.

38. The system of claim 37, wherein the customer obtains access to the ATM switch system via a customer ATM hub.

39. The system of claim 37, wherein the communication service includes private branch exchange (PBX) software.

40. The system of claim 39, wherein the PBX software allows the customer to modify the communication service electronically.

41. The system of claim 37, wherein

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the customer includes a first user located at a first geographical location with a first user ATM hub and a second user located at a second geographical location with a second user ATM hub,

the ATM switch system includes a first ATM switch system associated with the first user via the first user ATM hub and a second ATM switch system associated with the second user via the second user ATM hub, and

the first user connects to the second user via an ATM network that connects the first ATM switch system to the second ATM switch system.

42. The system of claim 37, wherein the ATM switch system connects to a frame relay, a world wide web, a public switch telephone network, or a global ATM system.

43. The system of claim 37, wherein the communication service includes voice information, data information, or single network message protocol information.

44. The system of claim 43, wherein the voice information includes information regarding local telephone service, long distance telephone service, and public branch exchange features.

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45. The system of claim 43, wherein the data information includes information regarding a local data network, a wide area network, a virtual private network, unified messaging, or the Internet.

46. The system of claim 37, wherein an operating system of the hosting server includes Microsoft NT, UNIX, or LINUX.

47. The system of claim 37, wherein the hosting server further hosts an application service.

48. The method of claim 47, wherein the hosted application service includes enterprise software or application software.

49. A computer program product for providing a hosted service to a customer using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), the computer program product comprising the following computer-readable program code for effecting actions in a computing platform:

program code for hosting a communication service on a hosting server with an ATM hub;

program code for providing access to the hosting server via the ATM hub and an ATM switch system; and

program code for allowing the customer to access the communication service at the hosting server via the ATM switch system.

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50. A system for providing a hosted service to a customer using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), comprising the steps of:

means for hosting a communication service on a hosting server with an ATM hub;

means for providing access to the hosting server via the ATM hub and an ATM switch system; and

means for allowing the customer to access the communication service at the hosting server via the ATM switch system.

51. A method for receiving a hosted service from a hosting server by a customer using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), comprising the steps of:

accessing the hosting server by the customer via an ATM connection; and

receiving a communication service by the customer from the hosting server.

52. The method of claim 51, wherein the communication service includes private branch exchange (PBX) software.

53. The method of claim 52, wherein the PBX software allows the customer to modify the communication service electronically.

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54. The method of claim 51, wherein the ATM connection connects to a frame relay, a world wide web, a public switch telephone network, or a global ATM system.

55. The method of claim 51, wherein the communication service includes voice information, data information, or single network message protocol information.

56. The method of claim 55, wherein the voice information includes information regarding local telephone service, long distance telephone service, and public branch exchange features.

57. The method of claim 55, wherein the data information includes information regarding a local data network, a wide area network, a virtual private network, unified messaging, or the Internet.

58. The method of claim 51, wherein an operating system of the hosting server includes Microsoft NT, UNIX, or LINUX.

59. The method of claim 51, wherein the receiving step further includes an application service from the hosting server.

60. The method of claim 59, wherein the application service includes enterprise software or application software.

61. The method of claim 51, wherein

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the customer includes a first user located at a first geographical location with a first user ATM hub and a second user located at a second geographical location with a second user ATM hub,

the ATM connection includes a first ATM switch system associated with the first user via the first user ATM hub and a second ATM switch system associated with the second user via the second user ATM hub, and

the first user connects to the second user via an ATM network that connects the first ATM switch system to the second ATM switch system.

62. The method of claim 51, wherein the receiving step further includes:

accessing the communication service via a host ATM hub; and

obtaining the communication service from the host ATM hub via an ATM switch system.

63. A system for receiving a hosted service from a hosting server by a customer using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), comprising:

an access component for accessing the hosting server by the customer via an ATM connection; and

a receive component for receiving a communication service from the hosting server.

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64. The system of claim 63, wherein the communication service includes private branch exchange (PBX) software.

65. The system of claim 64, wherein the PBX software allows the customer to modify the communication service electronically.

66. The system of claim 63, wherein the ATM connection connects to a frame relay, a world wide web, a public switch telephone network, or a global ATM system.

67. The system of claim 63, wherein the communication service includes voice information, data information, or single network message protocol information.

68. The system of claim 67, wherein the voice information includes information regarding local telephone service, long distance telephone service, and public branch exchange features.

69. The system of claim 67, wherein the data information includes information regarding a local data network, a wide area network, a virtual private network, unified messaging, or the Internet.

70. The system of claim 63, wherein an operating system of the hosting server includes Microsoft NT, UNIX, or LINUX.

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71. The system of 63, wherein the receive component further receives an application service.

72. The system of claim 71, wherein the application service includes enterprise software or application software.

73. The system of claim 63, wherein

the customer includes a first user located at a first geographical location with a first user ATM hub and a second user located at a second geographical location with a second user ATM hub,

the ATM connection includes a first ATM switch system associated with the first user via the first user ATM hub and a second ATM switch system associated with the second user via the second user ATM hub, and

the first user connects to the second user via an ATM network that connects the first ATM switch system to the second ATM switch system.

74. The system of claim 63, wherein the receive component comprises:

a host ATM hub for accessing the communication service; and

an ATM switch system for obtaining the communication service from the host ATM hub.

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75. A computer program product for receiving a hosted service from a hosting server by a customer using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), the computer program product comprising the following computer-readable program code for effecting actions in a computing platform:

program code for accessing the hosting server by the customer via an ATM connection; and

program code for receiving a communication service from the hosting server.

76. A system for receiving a hosted service from a hosting server by a customer using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), comprising:

means for accessing the hosting server by the customer via an ATM connection; and

means for receiving a communication service from the hosting server.

77. A method for receiving a hosted service from a hosting server by a customer, comprising the steps of:

receiving a communication service by the customer, provided by the hosting server using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), wherein the customer may request a change to the communication service via electronic implementation at the hosting server; and

receiving an application service, provided by the hosting server using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), wherein the customer may request a change to the application service via electronic implementation at the hosting server.

78. The method of claim 77, wherein the ATM occurs by an ATM switch system.

79. The method of claim 78, wherein the ATM switch system connects to a frame relay, a world wide web, a public switch telephone network, or a global ATM system.

80. The method of claim 77, wherein the application service includes enterprise software or application software.

81. The method of claim 77, wherein the communication service includes voice information, data information, or single network message protocol information.

82. The method of claim 81, wherein the voice information includes information regarding local telephone service, long distance telephone service, and public branch exchange features.

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83. The method of claim 81, wherein the data information includes information regarding a local data network, a wide area network, a virtual private network, unified messaging, or the Internet.

84. The method of claim 77, wherein

the customer includes a first user located at a first geographical location with a first user ATM hub and a second user located at a second geographical location with a second user ATM hub,

the ATM switch system includes a first ATM switch system associated with the first user via the first user ATM hub and a second ATM switch system associated with the second user via the second user ATM hub, and

the first user connects to the second user via an ATM network that connects the first ATM switch system to the second ATM switch system.

85. A system for receiving a hosted service from a hosting server by a customer, comprising:

a communication service receive component for receiving a communication service by the customer, provided by the hosting server using an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), wherein the customer may request a change to the communication service via electronic implementation at the hosting server; and

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an application service receive component for receiving an application service by the customer, provided by the hosting server using an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), wherein the customer may request a change to the application service via electronic implementation at the hosting server.

86. The system of claim 85, wherein the ATM occurs by an ATM switch system.

87. The system of claim 85, wherein the ATM switch system connects to a frame relay, a world wide web, a public switch telephone network, or a global ATM system.

88. The system of claim 85, wherein the application service includes enterprise software or application software.

89. The system of claim 85, wherein the communication service includes voice information, data information, or single network message protocol information.

90. The system of claim 89, wherein the voice information includes information regarding local telephone service, long distance telephone service, and public branch exchange features.

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91. The system of claim 89, wherein the data information includes information regarding a local data network, a wide area network, a virtual private network, unified messaging, or the Internet.

92. The system of claim 86, wherein

the customer includes a first user located at a first geographical location with a first user ATM hub and a second user located at a second geographical location with a second user ATM hub,

the ATM switch system includes a first ATM switch system associated with the first user via the first user ATM hub and a second ATM switch system associated with the second user via the second user ATM hub, and

the first user connects to the second user via an ATM network that connects the first ATM switch system to the second ATM switch system.

93. A computer program product for receiving a hosted service from a hosting server by a customer, the computer program product comprising the following computer-readable program code for effecting actions in a computing platform:

program code for receiving a communication service by the customer, provided by the hosting server using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM),

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wherein the customer may request a change to the communication service via electronic implementation at the hosting server; and

program code for receiving an application service by the customer, provided by the hosting server using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), wherein the customer may request a change to the application service via electronic implementation at the hosting server.

94. A system for receiving a hosted service from a hosting server by a customer, comprising:

means for receiving a communication service by the customer, provided by the hosting server using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), wherein the customer may request a change to the communication service via electronic implementation at the hosting server; and

means for receiving an application service by the customer, provided by the hosting server using asynchronous transfer mode (ATM), wherein the customer may request a change to the application service via electronic implementation at the hosting server.

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